

NOTES



GENERAL PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Office Mailing Address:
149 Goodwin Street
Bristol, CT 06010-5115

Telephones

Parish Office: 860-583-1369
E-Mail Address: stjoseph@snet.net
Church Home Page: <http://www.stjosephbristol.org>
Fax: 860-589-5374

Religious Education Office: 860-582-2888
Kimberlee Donahue
E-Mail Address: KimberleeDonahue@hotmail.com
Office E-Mail: ore_stjosephbristol@hotmail.com

St. Joseph School Office: 860-582-8696
School Home Page: <http://school.stjosephbristol.org>
E-Mail Address: saintjoseph.school@comcast.net
Fax: 860-584-9907

St. Joseph Cemetery/Mausoleum Office: 860-589-2105
Home Page: <http://cemetery.stjosephbristol.org>
E-Mail Address: sjcemetery@sbcglobal.net
Fax: 860-585-9915

Parish Staff

Pastor- Reverend Joseph V. DiSciaccia
Parochial Vicar- Reverend Jose Mercado
Deacon- Deacon Neil B. Richter
School Principal- Mark J. Monnerat
Religious Education Director- Kimberlee A. Donahue
Music Ministry Director- Jean L. Degan
Parish Office Manager- Katherine A. Young
Pastoral Council President- Pat Smatt
Director of Youth Ministry- Kimberlee A. Donahue

Revised 12/05/2007

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil	4:00PM
Sunday	7:30, 9:00, 10:30AM & 12Noon – Spanish
Daily Mass*	9:00AM – Monday – Friday
	8:00AM – Saturday
Spanish Mass*	7:00PM – Wednesday
	*Mass held in Parish Center Chapel

Memorial Masses and Mass Cards

Arranged Monday-Friday from 8:30AM to 4:00PM through the Parish Office. Masses can be booked 1 year from the present date.

Bulletin Notices

Announcements should be at the Parish Office in writing by Monday at 3:00PM.

St. Joseph Cemetery

For information on lot availability and arrangements, call the Cemetery Office at 860-589-2105 between 7:00AM and 4:00PM.

Home Page: <http://cemetery.stjosephbristol.org>



Saint Joseph School

ADOPT A GRANDPARENT:

Young people in our school and parish are invited to adopt-a-grandparent by becoming involved in the life of one of our parishioners who is currently living in an area nursing home or shut-in at home. Visits, cards and telephone calls, etc. would be involved in this ministry. At the present time this ministry is not active.

SCHOOL BOARD:

This group is appointed by, and serves as advisor to, the **School Principal**. For more information you can contact **Robin Chiasson**: RobinChiasson@yahoo.com

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT:

These groups aid in the development of new ideas, equipment, materials and fundraising for our school:

- **Bingo-** Held every Wednesday night in the Church's Guild Hall. School Principal **Mark Monnerat** is responsible for this weekly event.
- **Home and School Association- Co-Presidents 2007-2008:** Pete Roberge and Tom Rokosa; **Vice Presidents:** Laura Bouchard and Michael Aldieri. The Association does a number of fundraisers throughout the school year including Sports Booster Club, individual events and scrip. There are many areas in which school parents can become involved.
- **Scrip Program-** Scrip was instituted in 1998 and is an exceptional source of income for the school. Scrip is a program that uses gift certificates for the purchase of many items. A percentage of the purchase price goes back to the school. An order is placed by an individual and sent into the school office. Most are filled within the week. This takes a little planning, but the rewards can be great. Some merchants who participate are Stop & Shop, Shaw's, J.C. Penney, Old Navy and The Olive Garden, just to name a few. For more information, please call **St. Joseph School: 860-582-8696**, or contact **Diane Doyon: doyons@comcast.net**.
- **Senior Lunch-** A monthly lunch cooked by volunteer school parents and served by our 8th grade students, this ministry provides a special opportunity for our youth and seniors to come together.

Web Site: <http://school.stjosephbristol.org>

PRO-LIFE:

This committee encourages respect and understanding of all human life consistent with the church’s life ethics. It initiates involvement to impact legislative bodies and referendums being presented to the public. This group supports area homes that help young unwed mothers choose adoption. Collections are held for both Carolyn’s Place and St. Agnes Home once a year in the parish. Please call **Veronica Beaudoin: 860-584-6539.**

TRANSLATOR:

With our Hispanic population on the rise, we are always in need of people who are bilingual and can translate, speak and write in Spanish. There will be a greater need for this service as our Spanish speaking community increases.



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SOCIAL JUSTICE/HUMAN CONCERN

***DIRECT SERVICE**

- **Cooking Meals** for someone who has recently had surgery, a death in the family or other type of hardship or crisis can be a rewarding experience. Do you love to cook on a moments notice? This may be a good fit for you!
- **Community Outreach-** St. Joseph Parish is involved in an ongoing effort to help support the work of St. Vincent DePaul Shelter in Bristol. As a community, we support the “Annual Father’s Day Walk” and “Shamrock Run” which benefit the Shelter. Other areas of outreach include Homefront Day, volunteer coordination for the Shelter and other local events that support our community. This also involves special collections or services that may be needed throughout the year due to natural disaster or crisis. This includes the Overseas Emergency Fund.
- **Food Pantry** - St. Joseph Parish maintains a year-round food pantry to serve parish families and Federal Hill residents who need help. Volunteers are needed to help stock, maintain and run our pantry. All that is required are good organizational skills and a desire to help.
- **Food Baskets** are given out at Thanksgiving and Christmas to local needy families. Help is always welcome in putting these together.
- **Telephone Ministry** – a new ministry that allows us to keep in touch with parish members who are shut-in at home or in a nursing home. Phone calls would be made on a regular basis.
- **Meals for the Needy-** Collections are taken after Masses on the first full weekend of the month. The money is used to buy grocery gift cards, prepare meals at the Zion Lutheran Soup Kitchen and stock St. Joseph Food Pantry. All donations of non-perishable food items or monetary donations are greatly appreciated. Food donations and small packages of frozen meat can be dropped off at the Parish Center during the work week.
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry** – Knitters or crocheters are needed to make shawls. The shawls are given to those who are ill, have suffered the loss of a loved one, or in need of physical or spiritual comfort.
- **Sending Cards-** This involves sending out get-well or sympathy cards to parishioners and their families.

* For interest in any of the areas listed above, call **Kathy** at the Parish Center: **860-583-1369**.

- **Soup Kitchen Helper-** This group helps to prepare meals at Zion Lutheran Church in Bristol. Twice a month they are responsible for planning, preparing and serving meals on a rotation basis. They also help stock the St. Joseph Food Pantry. For more information or to get involved, call **Kathie Contrastano: 860-583-4889**.

Sacramental Information

millions worldwide. They follow a rule, which is a summary of the Gospel and guidelines to its perfect observance. They meet once a month in local groups called "fraternities" in order to learn more about St. Francis and to pray, share, encourage and support one another in living the Franciscan life. They are active in the work of their parishes and in every other area of Christian apostolate possible to them as they apply the distinct gospel spirit of St. Francis to their daily living. At St. Joseph's, its members meet on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00PM at the Parish Center, downstairs in the community room.

To learn more about our local group of Franciscans: **860-585-7767**, or **860-584-1867** evenings, or (djnocera@snet.net).

SEWING GUILD:

This committee is responsible for sewing new altar server & choir robes, vestments or whatever needs arise in Parish Life. Regular maintenance and care of items is an important part of this ministry. If you wish to offer your services in this area, please call **Dorene Nocera: 584-1867**.

SMALL CHURCH COMMUNITIES:

A group of people dedicated to prayer, listening to and discussing the Word of God, and acting on the commission of the Lord to render service to the world. This group meets bi-monthly. For more information: **860-583-1369**.



ANOINTING OF THE SICK AND COMMUNION CALLS:

Please call the parish office: **860-583-1369**.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION:

Baptisms are held the last Sunday of the month. Parent's Baptismal Workshop is held on the 2nd Thursday of the month. Please call the Parish Center for scheduling.

MARRIAGE:

A 6-month preparation program is required by the Archdiocese. Please call the Parish Center to reserve a date for your wedding.

MENTOR COUPLES:

This group involves older married couples working with couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage.

PRAYER LINE:

Many voices raised in prayer for the same need. Anyone wishing to activate or join the prayer line can call **Sandy: 860-585-1028 (days)** or **Barbara: 860-589-3239 (anytime)**.

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday at 2:30PM in the Church or call the Parish Office for an appointment.



The following opportunities are currently available for your Involvement and your Witness. It is the goal of our Church to have every family involved in at least one area of witness and service through our parish community.

This is the essence of being a Stewardship Parish!

Parish Ministries, Organizations, Programs and Services

*Any ministries without a contact person please call the Parish Office.

ADULT EDUCATION:

Opportunities of enrichment are provided that enable adults to learn more about their Catholic Faith and teachings of the Church.

ALTAR SERVER:

Girls and boys grades 5 through high school have the opportunity to assist during Sunday Mass by serving on the altar. For information: **860-582-2888**.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP:

A group of people who are willing to listen, understand, nurture and love you through your journey of grief to healing. For more information call **Judy Nielson: 860-582-2888**.

BIBLE STUDY:

At this time there is not a group meeting; however, there is hope to form one.

BOOK CLUB:

Open to avid (or not so avid) readers who would like to read and discuss a “book-of-the-month”. They meet once a month at the Parish Center: **860-583-1369**.

CHURCH CARE:

This group is responsible for light cleaning around the altar once a week. This includes dusting, care of linens, etc. For information call the Parish Office.

PARISH OFFICE VOLUNTEER:

Helping hands are all that are needed for this ministry. Volunteers cover the telephones, stuff bulletins, prepare mailings and other special projects. Call the **Parish Office** if you would like to help: **860-583-1369**.

PASTORAL COUNCIL:

This group meets monthly and acts as an advisory council to the Pastor. These members are selected by the Pastor at the Annual Parish Meeting. For more information you can E-mail **Mrs. Lisa P. Kean**, Pastoral Council President, at lpkean@comcast.net or call the **Parish Office: 860-583-1369**.

RCIA:

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process for welcoming adults and older children into the Catholic faith. Rather than just learning about the Church and then being baptized in a private ceremony, adults and older children participate in a catechetical process known as the “catechumenate”. RCIA will culminate in the reception of the three sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. The candidates are supported by church members who act as their sponsors throughout their journey. The sacraments of initiation are received during the Easter Vigil Mass. Please call **Father Joe DiSciaccia: 860-583-1369**.



SECULAR FRANCISCANS:

Secular Franciscans are Catholics who strive to achieve Christian perfection in the world according to the unique spirit of St. Francis of Assisi- the Saint known and loved the world over-who made the Holy Gospel the rule and standard of his life. They include Christians from every walk of life: laity and clergy, men and women, married and single, poor and rich, old and young, illiterate and learned-numbering in the

MUSIC MINISTRY:

St. Joseph Church has a variety of choirs for all ages. Most choirs rehearse on Tuesday. If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please call **Jean Degan: 860-583-1369.**

Cantor- The cantor ministry is open to anyone who can be trained in musical and spiritual leadership. The cantors experience ongoing training in the areas of singing, musicianship, liturgy, spirituality and ministry. Cantors remain in service to the assembly as they lead the song of the worshipping community and uplift the prayer of the people.

Adult Choir meets Tuesdays at 7:30PM in the Parish Center. This Choir participates in many ecumenical functions as well as singing weekly for Mass and special celebrations. All styles of music are used with a wide range of vocal parts (unison through 8 part division) and levels of difficulty.

Youth Choir consists of young people from grades 6 through High School. Rehearsals are on Tuesday evenings from 6-7:00PM. Music reading is not required. Youth choir sings at one of the Masses most weekends, as well as ecumenical events. They combine with the adult and children's choir to sing at special Parish celebrations.

Children's Choir is open to children in the Parish from grades 1 through 5. They sing at Sunday liturgy about twice a month from October through May. This group participates in a State-wide Children's Choir Festival in the Spring. Children's Choir also sings for 1st Communion in May and at other Parish events and celebrations.

Resurrection Choir consists of adults who provide musical support to our Funeral liturgies. This group is open to anyone who can "carry a tune". Music reading is not required. Because most Funerals are scheduled for weekday mornings, this ministry is ideal for retirees or those who do not normally work mornings.

Handbells- Our handbell groups have rung for weekend liturgies and Sacramental celebrations. They can be heard on Archdiocesan recordings as well as at diocesan Masses and other functions. The bell groups also do fun outings ringing at local and national handbell events including city-wide concerts. No previous experience is necessary to join a handbell choir, just a real dedication to this prayerful ministry. We'll teach you all you need to know!

Instrumentalist- Anyone who plays a musical instrument is invited to offer his or her talent at parish liturgies. Flute, guitar, saxophone and trumpet are but a few of the wonderful instruments that can be included in music ministry.

COLLECTION COUNTERS:

These groups rotate every four weeks to come in on Monday mornings and count the collection from the weekend Masses. Call the parish office: **583-1369.**

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION:

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion assist in the distribution of Holy Eucharist at Mass and in visits to the sick and the homebound. Candidates may express interest in this ministry through the parish office or directly to the Pastor. Candidates must be in good standing and have received the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Communion & Confirmation). In order to be commissioned, candidates must also participate in a diocesan preparation program. For more information about serving as a Parish Eucharistic Minister, please call **Kathy Young at the Parish Office: 860-583-1369.**

FAITH FORMATION AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:



This ministry offers a variety of areas for parish members to be involved.

A **Catechist** teaches Religious Education in the classroom from grades Pre-K through 8.

Grades and times they meet:

- Grades K-6 on Saturday from 9:30 to 11:00AM
- Catechists of the Good Shepherd (Atrium) on Saturday from 9:30 to 11:00AM
- Grades 7 & 8 on Tuesday from 7:00 to 8:15PM
- Grade 9 (Confirmation I)-Monthly on Sundays

- ❖ An **Aide** can assist the teacher in the classroom
- ❖ **Baking Committee Helpers** for receptions
- ❖ **Office Workers** during class time
- ❖ **Liturgy of the Word teacher** for Advent and Lent

❖ **Pastoral Council Education Committee**

❖ **Youth Group Helpers** to work with the Youth Director in planning activities for our young people.

❖ **Vacation Bible School Teachers and Helpers** in July.

Web Site: <http://faithformation.stjosephbristol.org>

*If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please call **Kim Donahue: 860-582-2888**. Web Site: <http://youth.stjosephbristol.org>

YOUTH GROUP:

High School youth interested in coming together for fun activities while putting their faith into action. This group welcomes youth grades 9 and up. Call **Kim Donahue: 860-582-2888**. Web Site: <http://youth.stjosephbristol.org>

FINANCE COUNCIL:

This group of parishioners has financial or business background, and helps review the Annual report and budget for the Parish. These members are appointed by the Pastor.

GREETERS/USHERS:

A committee responsible for greeting parishioners and visitors at Sunday Mass, taking up the collection, distributing bulletins and making sure the church is prepared for the following Mass.

HOSPITALITY/COMMUNITY LIFE:

This committee encompasses a wide variety of responsibilities including Hospitality Sundays, baking, Foods Fest, receptions for special Liturgies, welcoming new parishioners, etc. Chairperson is **Jim Collins: 860-589-5482**.

LECTORS:

Men and women who proclaim the Scriptures at Mass (*high school age and up*). If you like to read/speak in public, this may be an area of interest to you. If you are interested in this group, please call the **Parish Office: 860-583-1369**.

LITURGICAL DESIGN TEAM:

A group of people who help prepare for liturgy by attending to the art and environment of the worship space and the parish grounds. This includes responsibilities for such things as flowers, decorations, altar linens, sacred vessels, symbols and furnishings. They are responsible for creating a setting that stimulates the gathering of our faith community in a participatory and hospitable atmosphere for Word and Eucharist, for initiation and reconciliation, for prayer and song. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please contact **Kim Donahue: 860-582-2888**.



MEN'S AND WOMEN'S RETREATS:

Groups of men and women in the parish work together to share their faith and put into everyday practice what the Scriptures teach us. The men attend an annual retreat held at Holy Family Retreat House in Farmington.

Weekend retreats for the women of our parish take place annually, usually during Lent, at Our Lady of Calvary Retreat House in Farmington. The weekend is a call for women to set aside time for themselves and experience their God. This personal invitation is unique for each woman. In addition to weekend retreats, a number of other weekday and evening programs are presented, or women may make arrangements for individual retreats on their own schedule.

Weekend Retreats begin Friday evening with registration at 7:00PM and closes after Mass on Sunday at 11:45AM. Families are welcome to participate in the closing liturgy.

